

# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

*file Copy*

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

August 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/MOD

2.

3.

C/ESG

4.

5.

C/FED

6.

7.

C/ADD

8.

9.

C/HED

10.

11.

C/Computer Operations

12.

13.

14.

15.

Retain/Destroy

FORM 1-79 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

FBI8-4815-88  
9 September 88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Acting Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau -- August 1988

## I. GENERAL

Security precautions were increased around the bureau during August, particularly from 15 to 21 August, following a report from the local police that FBIS had been identified as a possible terrorist target by an obscure group that calls itself the Greek Liberation Army. Operational impact was confined to closing the bureau one hour early from 12 to 21 August with the BBC taking over coverage of Cairo MENA until its signoff.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The flooding in Sudan prompted the bureau, at BBC's request, to intermittently test its capability to monitor Sudanese radio and television off satellite. Although the bureau was now and then able to monitor Omdurman radio broadcasts, reception was usually worthless and bureau monitoring proved unproductive.

2. At the request of the U.S. ambassador in Nicosia, the bureau called him throughout the evening on 24 August to update him on the opening talks in Geneva between Cypriot President Vasilou and northern Cyprus leader Denktas.

3. Pakistani leader Ziaul Haq's death on 17 August affected the bureau in an unforeseen way when the scheduled flight of the Persian monitor   trying to return from leave in Karachi, was cancelled. Because of her delayed return, the BBC extended its assistance with Nicosia's Iranian coverage by three days. STAT

4. At the request of the Wire Service, the bureau obtained the Lebanese weekly AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI through the embassy in Beirut and processed an interview with a Hizballah official in Lebanon who contended that the abducted U.S. Colonel Higgins had been "arrested" because he was a spy.

5. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, which was believed hit in an Israeli raid on 9 August, proved that it was still functioning when it was heard here again on the 11th.

### B. Cruising

Program and frequency information on all the major Lebanese factional radios was updated in August in a series of cruising messages.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. [ ] the bureau's secretary, accompanied her husband on R&R to the United States 3-24 August. STAT

2. Bureau Deputy Chief [ ] and wife left for R&R in the United States on 5 August and returned on 30 August. STAT

3. Regional Engineer [ ] and family departed for home leave in the United States on 15 August before starting another tour at the bureau. STAT

4. Senior editor [ ] departed for R&R in West Germany on 30 August, following his family, who preceded him. STAT

### IV. VISITS

1. [ ] Production Group Armenian and Persian linguist, departed the bureau on 20 August after a one-month TDY. STAT

2. Security officer [ ] visited the bureau from 25-28 August. STAT

3. [ ] Athens Commo, toured the bureau 30 August. STAT

[ ]  
Acting Bureau Chief  
Nicosia Bureau STAT